

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension)

of the Educator Certificate of)

Kathy Reed)

Certificate 139255)

ORDER OF SUSPENSION

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on September 13, 2005. On July 21, 2005, the Office of Teacher Certification served Kathy Reed a notice of her right to a hearing regarding the possible suspension of her South Carolina educator certificate by certified mail, return receipt requested, delivery restricted to addressee. Ms. Reed received the notice, as evidenced by her telephone communication with the Office of General Counsel on or about August 1, 2005. Ms. Reed did not request a hearing within the time frame specified in the notice letter. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to suspend Ms. Reed's certificate for a two year period.

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Reed holds a valid South Carolina teaching certificate with over thirteen years of experience. Ms. Reed has not worked in a South Carolina public school since 2001. On November 5, 2004, Ms. Reed was convicted of numerous fraudulent check charges and incarcerated in the South Carolina Department of Corrections from that date through June 15, 2005.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The State Board may suspend the certificate of any person for unprofessional conduct and crimes against the law of this State or the United States. S.C. Code Ann. §§ 59-25-150 and 160 (2004). The State Board finds that there is sufficient information supporting its conclusion that just cause exists to suspend Ms. Reed's certificate for a period of two years, from September 13, 2005 until September 12, 2007. At the end of the suspension period, Ms. Reed may request reinstatement of her certificate by written request to the Office of Educator Certification at the South Carolina Department of Education. If Ms. Reed requests reinstatement, she must pass a character and fitness review by the State Board.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Paul M. Forrester

Paul M. Forrester, Chair

Columbia, South Carolina

September 13, 2005